

Name: _____

Period: 1A 2A 1B 2B

(syntax)



Using a variety of syntax means knowing some grammar-- and having the courage to try different sentence styles.

The writers of the novels we are studying are professionals, some of the best in the business. In short, they control and vary their syntax! We're going to devote some time today to noticing their efforts and appreciating the complexity and texture of good writing.

You have until the end of class to find ONE example from your book for each of the sentences types listed OR to write your own sentence (about your book) in the style listed. You may only use a sentence ONE time. You may scan any section of your book to find examples, not just the parts you have already read.

I don't know that you'll find EVERY style by the time class ends, especially since you may have to look up grammar terms. It's a race, though, (individual, not a relay!) so dig deep, find the eye of the tiger (the thrill of the fight) and rise up to the challenge of your rivals! Winners of the rally make even get prizes (*The Road* readers: Coca-Cola, *Life of Pi* readers: zoo passes or swimming lessons, *Going After Cacciato* readers: M & M's, *Joy Luck Club* readers: dim sum and chess/piano lessons) . . .

One good "game plan" would be to look through the list to see if there are sentence styles you already know. Find those first then go back to the ones you need to research. The number(s) in parentheses following each item indicates the page(s) where you'll find help in the Holt *Elements of Language* textbook.

The List:

- ☐ a declarative sentence (91)
- ☐ an interrogative sentence (91)
- ☐ an imperative sentence (91)
- ☐ a sentence with a compound subject (81)
- ☐ a sentence with a compound predicate (81)
- ☐ a sentence with an expletive (grammatical NOT a "swear word" ☺) (83)
- ☐ a sentence that could also describe what being in high school feels like:
- ☐ a sentence with an infinitive phrase (111)
- ☐ a sentence which begins with a prepositional phrase (500, 512, 100)
- ☐ a sentence using a gerund or gerundive phrase as the subject of the sentence (108)
- ☐ a sentence using a gerund or gerundive phrase as the object of a verb (108)

- ☐ a sentence which begins with a participial phrase (501, 512, 105)
- ☐ a sentence that sounds like something a teacher would say (a teacher besides me, of course)
- ☐ a sentence which ends with a participial phrase (501, 512, 105)
- ☐ a sentence interrupted by a participial phrase (501, 512, 105)
- ☐ a sentence with an absolute phrase (502, 105)
- ☐ a sentence with an appositive phrase (503, 115)
- ☐ a sentence that I would mark as needing revision if you wrote it in a formal, academic essay:
- ☐ a simple sentence without any phrases (133)
- ☐ a complex sentence (135)
- ☐ a compound sentence joined by a coordinating conjunction (134, 480)
- ☐ a compound sentence joined by a semi-colon or parataxis (134, 481)
- ☐ a compound-complex sentence (135)
- ☐ a sentence with an adverb clause (482, 507, 0129)
- ☐ a sentence with an adjective clause (484, 506, 124)
- ☐ a sentence with a noun clause (508, 126)
- ☐ a sentence that could also describe how you will feel on Monday, June 4, 2012:
- ☐ an effective sentence fragment (77)
- ☐ a sentence with parallel style (486)
- ☐ a sentence with an elliptical clause (130)